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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/506,943	GUSTAVSSON ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit LUU PHAM 2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-76 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-45 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 46-76 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 08 September 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/08/2004

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the application 10/506,943 filed on 09/08/2004.
2. As per the Preliminary Amendment filed on 09/08/2004, claims 1-45 were canceled; claims 46-76 are newly added; claims 46, 59, and 69 are independent claims.
Claims 46-76 have been examined and are pending.

Claim Objections

3. **Claims 50-52, 57-58, 63-66, and 73-76 are objected to under CFR 1.75(c)** because of the following informalities:
 - **Regarding claims 50, 64, and 74**, the acronyms 'GSM' and 'SIM' are used without spelling out in full at their first occurrences in the claims.
 - **Regarding claims 51, 65, and 75**, the acronyms 'UMTS' and 'USIM' are used without spelling out in full at their first occurrences in the claims.
 - **Regarding claims 52, 66, and 76**, the acronyms 'WPKI' and 'WIM' are used without spelling out in full at their first occurrences in the claims.
 - **Regarding claim 57**, the acronyms 'SIM', 'USIM', and 'HMAC' are used without spelling out in full at their first occurrences in the claim.
 - **Regarding claims 58, 63, and 73**, the acronym 'HMAC' is used without spelling out in full at its first occurrence in the claims.
 - **Regarding claim 64**, the claim recites "*the electronic communication apparatus according to claim 14*." However, there is no claim 14 was canceled. For the purpose of

applying art, the Examiner interprets it to mean “*the electronic communication apparatus according to claim 59.*” (emphasis added).

- **Regarding claims 75 and 76,** the claims recite “*the server according to claim 24.*” However, there is no claim 24 was canceled. For the purpose of applying art, the Examiner interprets it to mean “*the electronic communication apparatus according to claim 69.*” (emphasis added).
- **Regarding claims 73-76,** the numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be **numbered consecutively** beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not). (emphasis added). Claim 72 is missing in this application.

Appropriate corrections are required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

- **Claim 69 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101** because the claim may be directed to non-statutory subject matter. Although the preamble of the claim recites “*a server,*” the body of the claim may be directed to software implementation since “*means for incorporating an authentication method*” and “*means for determining authentication*

method" could be implemented by software by one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made. Therefore, the claimed subject matter does not belong to any of the four statutory categories set forth above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. **Claims 46-49, 54-56, 59-62, and 67-71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)** as being anticipated by "SyncML Sync Protocol, version 1.0," (hereinafter "SyncML"), SYNCML CONSORTIUM, published on December 07, 2000.

- **Regarding claim 46**, SyncML discloses a method for providing authentication when messages are sent between an electronic communication apparatus and a server according to a synchronization protocol (*page 8, Fig. 2; page 20, section 3: authentication*), comprising:

providing an authentication method indicator (*page 21, section 3.5.1; XML Tag 'type'; page 13, section 2.5*) that specifies an authentication method according to which the authentication is to be executed (*page 20, section 3; page 21, section 3.5; XML Tag 'SyncML' and 'VerDTD'*);

incorporating into a message the authentication method indicator (*page 21, section 3.5.1; XML Tag 'type'; page 13, section 2.5*) comprising a plurality of

authentication capabilities of the communication apparatus (*page 13, section 2.5; the protocol requires the support for the basic authentication and the MD5 digest access authentication; see also page 20, section 3; page 21, section 3.5.1; XML Tag 'type' <auth-basic>; page 23; XML Tag 'type' <auth-md5>*); and

transmitting said message to said server according to an authentication protocol of the synchronization protocol (*page 22; Pkg #1 (with credentials) from client; data inside XML Tag 'type' <auth-basic>; see also page 23; Pkg #1 (with credentials) from Client; syncML: auth-md5*).

- **Regarding claim 47**, SyncML discloses the method according to claim 46, wherein the authentication method indicator is incorporated into a meta command of the synchronization protocol (*page 22, Pkg #1 (with credentials) from Client; XML Tag 'Meta' includes <auth-basic>; see also page 23; Pkg #1 (with credentials) from Client*).
- **Regarding claim 48**, SyncML discloses the method according to claim 46, wherein the message is an initialization message (*pages 22-25; Pkg #1 (with credentials) from Client; Fig. 6; Pkg #1: client initialization package to server*), and the authentication capabilities of the electronic communication apparatus is indicated in an authentication method list of the initialization message (*page 15, section 2.7; pages 22-24, section 3.5; pages 25-27, section 4*), which is sent to the server for establishing a connection (*page 25; Fig. 6; Pkg #1: client initialization package to server*).
- **Regarding claim 49**, SyncML discloses the method according to claim 46, wherein any authentication data relating to the specified authentication method is

incorporated in a data string of the message-sent according to the synchronization protocol (*page 21, section 3.5; the client sends Pkg #1 with the credentials; the server accepts the credentials and the session is authenticated; see also page 25; Fig. 6*).

- **Regarding claim 54**, SyncML discloses the method according to claim 48, further comprising: determining at the server the authentication capabilities of the electronic communication apparatus based on the plurality of authentication capabilities listed in the authentication method list (*page 20, section 3.1-3.3; page 21, section 3.5.1; the client sends Pkg #1 with credentials; the server accepts the credentials and the session is authenticated; see also pages 22-23; Pkg #1 (with credentials) from Client; information inside XML Tag 'type' includes <auth-basic> and <auth-md5>*).

- **Regarding claim 55**, SyncML discloses the method according to claim 54, further comprising:

- executing at the server authentication operations according to one of the plurality of authentication capabilities indicated in the authentication method list (*page 21, section 3.5; the client sends Pkg #1 with the credentials; the server accepts the credentials and the session is authenticated; see also page 25; Fig. 6*);

- preparing a message at the server comprising the authentication method indicator and any authentication data relating to the specified authentication method (*pages 21-23; see Pkg #2 from server*); and

- transmitting the message to the electronic communication apparatus (*page 25, Fig. 6; Pkg #2: server initialization package to client*).

- **Regarding claim 56**, SyncML discloses the method according to claim 55,

further comprising:

receiving the message at the electronic communication apparatus (*page 25; Fig. 6; server initialization package to client*);

executing, at the electronic communication apparatus, authentication operations according to the authentication method indicated by the authentication method indicator to generate an expected result (*page 21, section 3.5; the client sends Pkg #1 with the credentials; the server accepts the credentials and the session is authenticated; see also page 25; Fig. 6*);

preparing a response to the server comprising the authentication method indicator, and any authentication data (*page 26, section 4.1; initialization requirements for client; see also page 33; Fig. 7; client makes data update for its databases*); and

transmitting the response to the server (*page 26, section 4.1; initialization requirements for client; see also page 33; Fig. 7; client sends server Pkg #5, data update status package*).

- **Regarding claim 59**, claim 59 is similar in scope to claim 1, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claim 60**, SyncML discloses the electronic communication apparatus according to claim 59, further comprising: means for sending an initialization message to the server for establishing a connection, the message comprising the authentication method

indicator (pages 22-25; Pkg #1 (with credentials) from Client; Fig. 6; Pkg #1: client initialization package to server).

- **Regarding claim 61**, SyncML discloses the electronic communication apparatus according to claim 60, wherein the initialization message further comprises type of apparatus and/or identity of the electronic communication apparatus (pages 27-28, section 4.1.1; XML Tags 'PropName' includes <TEL>, <VOICE>, and <CELL>; see also page 31; XML Tags 'PropName').
- **Regarding claim 62**, SyncML discloses the electronic communication apparatus according to claim 61, further comprising: means for incorporating authentication data in a data string of the message to be sent according to the synchronization protocol (page 21, section 3.5; the client sends Pkg #1 with the credentials; the server accepts the credentials and the session is authenticated; see also page 25; Fig. 6).
- **Regarding claim 67**, SyncML discloses the electronic communication apparatus according to claim 59, wherein the electronic communication apparatus is a pager, an electronic organizer, and/or a smartphone (page 8, section SyncML Client; the SyncML client is typically a mobile phone, PC, or PDA device; see also Fig. 2; synchronization example with mobile phone and server).
- **Regarding claim 68**, SyncML discloses the electronic communication apparatus according to claim 59, wherein the electronic communication apparatus is a mobile telephone (page 8; Fig. 2; synchronization example with mobile phone and server).

- **Regarding claim 69**, SyncML discloses a server, comprising:

means for incorporating an authentication method indicator in a message to be sent (*page 20, section 3; the authentication procedure are defined for the basic and MD5 digest access authentication and both of them must be supported by the devices; page 21, section 3.5.1; Pkg #1 from Client and Pkg #2 from Server*) according to an authentication protocol of a synchronization protocol for indicating an authentication method according to which the authentication is to be executed (*page 21; section 3.5.1; page 22; Pkg #1 from (with credentials) from Client and Pkg #2 from Server*);

means for determining from the authentication method indicator of a received message a plurality of authentication capabilities of an apparatus (*pages 22-23; Pkg #1 (with credentials) from Client; information inside XML Tag 'type' includes <auth-basic> and <auth-md5>*); and

means for determining the authentication method to use based on the plurality of authentication capabilities (*page 20, section 3.1-3.3; page 21, section 3.5.1; the client sends Pkg #1 with credentials; the server accepts the credentials and the session is authenticated*).

- **Regarding claim 70**, is similar in scope to claim 62, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claim 71**, SyncML discloses the server according to claim 69, further comprising: means for executing authentication according to the determined authentication method (*page 21, section 3.5; the client sends Pkg #1 with the credentials*);

the server accepts the credentials and the session is authenticated; see also page 25, Fig. 6).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
8. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
9. **Claims 50-51, 57, 63-65, and 73-75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SyncML, as applied to claims 46, 59, and 69 above, and further in view of Quick, Jr. et al. (hereinafter “Quick”), U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0091933, filed on May 22, 2001.**
 - **Regarding claim 50**, SyncML discloses the method according to claim 46.

SynnML does not explicitly disclose the authentication method is GSM SIM authentication.

However, in an analogous art, Quick discloses a method for providing local authentication, wherein the authentication method is GSM SIM authentication (*pars. 0005-0006; Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) is used in GSM system; an authentication key for identifying the subscriber*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the method and system of Quick with that of SyncML wherein the authentication method is GSM SIM authentication to allows a subscriber to travel without his or her personal mobile phone and to use locally available mobile phone without incurring costs in establishing a new account (*par. 0005*).

- **Regarding claim 51**, SyncML discloses the method according to claim 46.

SyncML does not explicitly disclose the authentication method is UMTS USIM authentication, which provides server authentication.

However, in an analogous art, Quick discloses a method for providing local authentication, wherein the authentication method is UMTS USIM authentication, which provides server authentication (*pars. 0005 and 0006; next generation SIM card have been renamed as USIM used in UTMS system; an authentication key for identifying the subscriber*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the method and system of Quick with that of SyncML wherein the authentication method is UMTS USIM authentication, which

provides server authentication to allows a subscriber to travel without his or her personal mobile phone and to use locally available mobile phone without incurring costs in establishing a new account (*par. 0005*).

- **Regarding claim 57**, SyncML discloses the method according to claim 46. SyncML does not explicitly disclose the authentication method is SIM/USIM authentication, the method further comprising: using CKs/IKs (cipher keys/integrity keys) generated by the electronic communication apparatus and the server, respectively, to provide integrity protection, wherein the CKs/IKs are used for generating MAC values; and using a hashing function for computing a HMAC on the message.

However, in an analogous art, Quick discloses a method for providing local authentication, wherein the authentication method is SIM/USIM authentication, the method further comprising: using CKs/IKs (cipher keys/integrity keys) generated by the electronic communication apparatus and the server, respectively, to provide integrity protection (*pars. 0024 and 0026-0027; cipherkey 290 and integrity key 310*), wherein the CKs/IKs are used for generating MAC values (*pars. 0026; the IK 310 can be used to generate a message authentication code MAC*); and using a hashing function for computing a HMAC on the message (*par. 0038; HMAC-SHA-1 scheme; HMAC is implemented in the subscriber identification token*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the method and system of Quick with that of SyncML wherein the authentication method is SIM/USIM authentication, the method further comprising: using CKs/IKs (cipher keys/integrity keys) generated by the electronic

communication apparatus and the server, respectively, to provide integrity protection, wherein the CKs/IKs are used for generating MAC values; and using a hashing function for computing a HMAC on the message to provide users with a mean for providing secure authentication to a subscriber roaming outside his or her home system (*par. 0007*).

- **Regarding claim 63**, SyncML discloses the electronic communication apparatus according to claim 59.

SyncML does not explicitly disclose means for using an IK (integrity key) to generate a MAC to provide integrity protection; and means for using a hashing function to compute a HMAC on the message to be sent.

However, in an analogous art, Quick discloses a method for providing local authentication, wherein means for using an IK (integrity key) to generate a MAC to provide integrity protection (*pars. 0026; the IK 310 can be used to generate a message authentication code MAC*); and means for using a hashing function to compute a HMAC on the message to be sent (*par. 0038; HMAC-SHA-1 scheme; HMAC is implemented in the subscriber identification token*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the method and system of Quick with that of SyncML wherein means for using an IK (integrity key) to generate a MAC to provide integrity protection; and means for using a hashing function to compute a HMAC on the message to be sent to provide users with a mean for providing secure authentication to a subscriber roaming outside his or her home system (*par. 0007*).

- **Regarding claim 64**, claim 64 is similar in scope to claim 50, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.
- **Regarding claim 65**, claim 65 is similar in scope to claim 51, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.
- **Regarding claim 73**, claim 73 is similar in scope to claim 63, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale
- **Regarding claim 74**, claim 74 is similar in scope to claim 50, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.
- **Regarding claim 75**, claim 75 is similar in scope to claim 51, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

10. **Claims 52 and 66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over SyncML, as applied to claims 46 and 59 above, and further in view of Lahteenmaki, U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0028805, filed on August 03, 2001.

- **Regarding claim 52**, SyncML discloses the method according to claim 46. SyncML does not explicitly disclose the authentication method is WPKI or WIM authentication.

However, in an analogous art, Lahteenmaki discloses a method for managing network service access and enrolment, wherein the authentication method is WPKI or WIM authentication (*par. 0038; WAP Public key Infrastructure (WPKI) provides a manner of enabling the trust relationships needed for authentication of servers and clients*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the method and system of Lahteenmaki with that of SyncML wherein the authentication method is WPKI or WIM authentication to provide users with a means for managing user access and enrollment for secure network services (*par. 0001*).

- **Regarding claim 66**, claim 66 is similar in scope to claim 52, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

11. **Claims 53 and 76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over SyncML, as applied to claims 46, 59, and 69 above, and further in view of Tran et al. (hereinafter “Tran”), U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0033524, filed on August 13, 2001.

- **Regarding claim 53**, SyncML the method according to claim 46. SyncML does not explicitly disclose the authentication method is SecureId or SafeWord authentication.

However, in an analogous art, Tran discloses a wireless portal system, wherein the authentication method is SecureId or SafeWord authentication (*par. 0052; the authentication modules may also include LDAP authentication, secure ID, radius authentication, etc.*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the method and system of Tran with that of SyncML wherein the authentication method is SecureId or SafeWord authentication to provide access to any type of service from any type of device from anywhere and to

provide content suitable for these devices without incurring substantial cost overhead (*par. 0008*).

- **Regarding claim 76**, SyncML discloses the server according to claim 24.

SyncML does not explicitly disclose the authentication method is SecureId, SafeWord, WPKI and/or WIM authentication.

However, in an analogous art, Tran discloses a wireless portal system, wherein the authentication method is SecureId, SafeWord, WPKI and/or WIM authentication (*par. 0052; the authentication modules may also include LDAP authentication, secure ID, radius authentication, etc.*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the method and system of Tran with that of SyncML wherein the authentication method is SecureId, SafeWord, WPKI and/or WIM authentication to provide access to any type of service from any type of device from anywhere and to provide content suitable for these devices without incurring substantial cost overhead (*par. 0008*).

12. **Claim 58 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over SyncML and Lahteenmaki, as applied to claim 52 above, and in view of Quick, Jr. et al. (hereinafter “Quick”), U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0091933, filed on May 22, 2001, and further in view of Beatson, U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0056100, filed on September 14, 2001.
 - **Regarding claim 58**, SyncML and Lahteenmaki disclose the method according to claim 52.

SyncML and Lahteenmaki do not explicitly disclose generating, at the server, an integrity key that is encrypted with the public key of the electronic communication apparatus; sending the integrity key to the electronic communication apparatus; using the integrity key at the electronic communication apparatus to generate MAC values; and using a hashing function at the electronic communication apparatus to compute a HMAC on the message.

However, in an analogous art, Quick discloses a method for providing local authentication, wherein generating, at the server, an integrity key (*par. 0024; key generator 250 generates a cryptographic cipher key (CK) 290 and an integrity key (IK) 310;*

sending the integrity key to the electronic communication apparatus (pars. 0024 and 0026-0027; IK 310 is conveyed to the mobile unit 220);

using the integrity key at the electronic communication apparatus to generate MAC values (pars. 0026; the IK 310 can be used to generate a message authentication code MAC); and

using a hashing function at the electronic communication apparatus to compute a HMAC on the message (par. 0038; HMAC-SHA-1 scheme; HMAC is implemented in the subscriber identification token).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the method and system of Quick with that of SyncML and Lahteenmaki wherein generating, at the server, an integrity key; sending the integrity key to the electronic communication apparatus; using the integrity key at the electronic communication apparatus to generate MAC values; and using a hashing function

at the electronic communication apparatus to compute a HMAC on the message to provide users with a mean for providing secure authentication to a subscriber roaming outside his or her home system (*par. 0007*).

SyncML, Lahteenmaki, and Quick disclose all limitations as recited above. SyncML, Lahteenmaki, and Quick do not explicitly disclose the integrity key is encrypted with the public key of the electronic communication apparatus.

However, in an analogous art, Beatson discloses a method for authenticating a digitized signature for execution of an electronic document, wherein the integrity key is encrypted with the public key of the electronic communication apparatus (*par. 0080; the device (server) encrypts the secret key (integrity key) with the public key of the destination host (electronic communication apparatus) and communicates the data to that host with the encrypted secret key*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the method and system of Beatson with that of SyncML, Lahteenmaki, and Quick, wherein the integrity key is encrypted with the public key of the electronic communication apparatus to provide users with a means for providing authenticating access to an electronic system (*par. 0003*).

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. US 6,556,820 to Le et al.

U.S. Patent Application No. US 2003/0097592 by Adusumilli.

U.S. Patent Application No. US 2003/0081557 by Mettala et al.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luu Pham whose telephone number is 571-270-5002. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel L. Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Luu Pham/
Examiner, Art Unit 2137

/Emmanuel L. Moise/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2137